



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
*PO Box 45600 * Olympia, WA 98504-5600*

August 18, 2009

Dear Tribal Leader:

I would like to invite you or your representative to a meeting with the Washington State Tribes, Area Agencies on Aging, and Aging and Disability Services Administration. You and your tribal leaders who work with the elders are invited to attend this event on Friday, September 18, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be hosted by the Muckleshoot Tribe at the Phillip Star Building in Auburn, Washington.

A draft agenda is enclosed. Please note one of the agenda items is information on Tribal income. This is in response to questions I have received regarding treatment of Tribal income for Medicaid eligibility. At the request of the Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC), I am enclosing information regarding Medicaid exemptions for burial funds in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 388-475-0500.

Lunch will be provided at the meeting, therefore it is requested you RSVP to Deborah Bennett at 360-725-2543 or benned@dshs.wa.gov by September 11. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bill Moss, Director
Home and Community Services Division

Enclosure



Aging and Disability Services Administration
Meeting with Washington State Tribes and Area Agencies on Aging

Friday, September 18, 2009
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Muckleshoot Tribe
Cougar Room – Phillip Star Building
39015 – 172nd Avenue Southeast
Auburn, Washington

Agenda Items

- Networking
- Adult Protective Services & Financial Exploitation
- Information on Tribal Income
- Sovereign & Intergovernmental Relations
- Long-Term Care Worker Training

Medicaid Exemptions for Burial Funds

Washington Administrative Code:

WAC 388-475-0500, SSI-related medical – Burial funds, contracts and spaces excluded as resources.

(5) An irrevocable burial account, burial trust, or other irrevocable burial arrangement, set aside solely for burial and related expenses is not considered a resource. The amount set aside must be reasonably related to the anticipated death-related expenses in order to be excluded.

DSHS EAZ Manual:

Clarifying information in the manual states: Irrevocable burial funds may be in any reasonable amount designated solely for burial and related expenses. Reasonableness must be evaluated on an individual, case by case basis, and should include cultural considerations and special burial arrangements. The purpose is to insure that only amounts expected to be used for death-related expenses are placed in irrevocable burial accounts.